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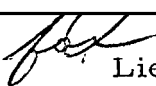
18 April 1975

NSA and NRO review(s) completed.

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: The National Reconnaissance Program ExCom

1. The ExCom meeting, as set forth in the attached agenda (Tab 1), is presently scheduled for 1500 hours on 23 April 1975. The agenda has been constrained to approximately a two-hour session.
2. The meeting is, in essence, informative in nature. No decisions are requested from the ExCom. Nevertheless, this meeting does provide the opportunity for you and Dr. Hall to concur with or redirect present key study efforts presently underway, establish the framework for additional studies, and provide guidance to the DNRO as to which issues you may perceive as requiring further clarification prior to the July ExCom.
3. Introductory remarks for you, as well as brief background papers on both the DNRO and DIRNSA reports to the ExCom, are attached. We plan to meet with you on Monday, 21 April, at 1800 hours to discuss the reports, answer any questions you may have, and ascertain if there are any further actions desired by you prior to the ExCom meeting on Wednesday.


Samuel V. Wilson
Lieutenant General, USA
D/DCI/IC

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Attachments:

- 25X1A
- Tab 1 - Agenda for April ExCom
 - Tab 2 - Introductory Remarks
 - Tab 3 - DNRO Report Highlights
 - Tab 4 - DIRNSA Report Comments
 - Tab 5 - The DNRO Report
 - Tab 6 - The DIRNSA Report

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NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAM

Washington, D.C.

14 April 1975

NRP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING

Director of Central Intelligence Conference Room
Room 7D-62, CIA Headquarters
Wednesday, 23 April 1975
3:00 p.m.

Agenda

1. Introductory Remarks Mr. Colby
 2. NRP Overview/Status Mr. Plummer
 3. Baseline Program Summary Mr. Hill
 4. FY-75 Guidance Highlights Mr. Hill
 5. Special Items
 - a. COMINT New Initiatives Lt General Allen
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-
- Brig General Kulpa

- MC&G
 - Search Performance
 - Resolution
-

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6. ExCom Discussion

Meeting Participants

7. Executive Session

Mr. Colby/Dr. Hall/Mr. Plummer

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Secretary
NRP Executive Committee

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DCI INTRODUCTORY REMARKS
APRIL 1975 EXCOM

WELCOME. AS I UNDERSTAND IT, JIM, THE SESSION TODAY IS INFORMATIVE IN NATURE--A SORT OF "HOWGOZIT"--WITH RESPECT TO FUNDING, OPERATIONAL STATUS OF PROGRAMS, AND THE PROGRESS OF SEVERAL MAJOR STUDY EFFORTS UNDERWAY WITHIN THE COMMUNITY.

I AM PLEASED THAT A SESSION AT THIS TIME OF YEAR HAS, IN A SENSE, BEEN INSTITUTIONALIZED (I.E., THIS IS THE SECOND APRIL EXCOM). THIS GIVES ME AN ESTABLISHED PROCEDURE WHICH PROVIDES THE OPPORTUNITY TO VIEW THE NRP AT THE SAME TIME THAT THE SEVERAL OTHER INTELLIGENCE PROGRAMS ARE BEING REVIEWED IN OTHER FORUMS, AND ALSO AT THE TIME WHEN I USUALLY AM DEFENDING THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY'S TOTAL

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PROGRAM AND BUDGET BEFORE THE VARIOUS CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEES. I ALSO VIEW THIS SESSION AS A FORUM WHEREIN MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY MAY EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS, CONCERNS, INSIGHTS, OR DESIRES TO ME AND DR. HALL ON MATTERS RELATED TO THE NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAM AT A FAIRLY CRITICAL PROGRAM PRE-FORMULATION STAGE. I ENCOURAGE FREE DISCUSSION AS WE PROCEED THROUGH THE AGENDA TODAY.

PRIOR TO TURNING THE MEETING OVER TO YOU, JIM, I WOULD LIKE TO TABLE A FEW ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS, AND SET FORTH SOME GENERAL MANAGEMENT COURSES OF ACTION THAT MUST BE PURSUED.

FIRST OF ALL, I THINK THAT THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY HAS COME OF AGE IN THE SPACE ERA. WE HAVE PASSED

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THE TECHNOLOGY STAGE WHERE THE MERE ACT OF GETTING A SATELLITE ON-ORBIT WAS, IN FACT, A SUCCESS IN ITSELF, AND ARE NOW IN THE POSTURE WHEREIN THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY UNDERSTANDS AND DEPENDS HEAVILY ON THE INFORMATION DERIVED FROM OUR SPACE RECONNAISSANCE SYSTEMS. THE CURRENT SYSTEMS UNDER DEVELOPMENT OR UNDER STUDY ARE FURTHER EVIDENCE OF THIS.

MAJOR DECISIONS WERE MADE LAST YEAR FOR BOTH IMAGERY AND SIGINT SYSTEMS. THE CONTINUATION OF THE PROGRAM IS A KEY DECISION FACING US IN JULY. WE ALSO

SET THE STAGE DURING THE PREVIOUS YEAR FOR KEY DECISIONS TO BE MADE IN 1976 AND 1977. THIS LATTER ASPECT IS ONE OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO ME, FOR I AM KEENLY SENSITIVE TO THE FACT THAT IT WILL BE THOSE DECISIONS THAT SET THE

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POSTURE FOR SATELLITE RECONNAISSANCE THROUGH AT LEAST
THE MID-EIGHTIES.

AS I REVIEW THE PROGRAM STRUCTURE, I FORESEE THE
FOLLOWING IMPORTANT DECISIONS CONVERGING IN THE SAME
TIME FRAME.

- DECIDING THE PROPER IMAGERY SYSTEMS MIX.

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- HOW AND TO WHAT EXTENT SHOULD WE IMPROVE
COMINT COLLECTION.

- WHAT IS THE DESIRED RELATIONSHIP OF THE

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SYSTEMS BOTH IN A NATIONAL AND TACTICAL SENSE.

- WHAT IMPROVEMENTS SHOULD BE MADE TO

25X1 25X1 OUR EXISTING ELINT COLLECTION

CAPABILITY.

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• HOW CAN WE DISSEMINATE INFORMATION FROM
EXISTING SYSTEMS FASTER AND BETTER TO THE
TACTICAL COMMANDS.
ALL WILL COMPETE FOR A LIMITED AMOUNT OF RESOURCES.
THESE WILL BE DIFFICULT DECISIONS. I LOOK TO THE
COMMUNITY FOR CONTINUED COOPERATION IN MEETING THIS
CHALLENGE.

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DIRNSA REPORT

At the November 1974 ExCom, you asked General Allen to develop a list of COMINT initiatives for presentation to the April ExCom. General Allen's submission is responsive to that request.

During the period since November, IC Staff, NRO, and NSA personnel have reviewed some 87 ideas ranging from minor modifications to existing processing hardware to [REDACTED] simultaneously. General Allen has chosen to identify six major initiatives in priority order which he feels are compatible with other (CCP) SIGINT collection, processing, and analysis efforts.

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The DIRNSA's report is technically conservative in approach. It does not, for example, delve in depth into the technically exciting aspects of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The submission does reflect General Allen's personal belief that any additional resources above the current baseline in APS and the NRP allocated to overhead SIGINT should be first directed to efficiency improvements to existing systems.

General Allen will brief the subject personally. Cost data for each initiative has been prepared, on an analyzed base, by the NRO. It will be included in his briefing.

Review by the ExCom does not signify concurrence or approval of the submitted initiatives. The report does, however, establish the framework for any subsequent increase in resource allocation to overhead SIGINT and provides a basis for comparison of these suggested increases with new initiatives in other NRP sensor areas. In this sense, it signifies the Director NSA's counsel/advice to the ExCom.

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Brig General Kulpa

- MC&G
- Search Performance
- Resolution

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6. ExCom Discussion

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7. Executive Session

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Secretary
NRP Executive Committee

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Remarks:

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Executive Secretary

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